REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated May 17, 2005, please consider the following remarks.

In the Office Action issued May 17, 2005, claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 4-5, and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over an article "Remote Procedure Call" by Dave Marshall (Marshall) in view of admitted prior art (APA). Claims 3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Marshall in view of admitted prior art APA and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,088,694 to Burns et al. (Burns)

Claims 1-9 are now pending in this application. The applicant disagrees that claims 1-4 define non-statutory subject matter as set forth by the Examiner. However, in the interests of expediting prosecution of the application, claim 1 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 5 has been amended to clarify the subject matter that the applicant considers to be the invention.

The applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, according to claims 1, 2, 4-5, and 7-9 is not anticipated by Marshall. Marshall discloses Remote Procedure Call (RPC), which is an extension of conventional, or local procedure calling, so that the called procedure need not exist in the same address space as the calling procedure. As disclosed by Marshall, RPC requires that the client and server programs both be developed and installed before either of them can be used. For example, in the section "RPC Application Development", Marshall discloses concurrent development of the

client and server programs. Likewise, in the section "Compiling and running the application", Marshall discloses compiling and building both the client and server executables, then running both programs on their respective computers. Thus, Marshall discloses concurrent installation of both the client and server applications. Marshall discloses a number of calls by which the two applications can communicate, but these calls are predefined at build time.

By contrast, the present invention, for example, according to claim 1, requires installing a first self-contained data handling application to operate with a second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application having at least one call routine which is executed when the second data handling application is operated, the method comprising: a) determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present, b) generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application, which will be executed by the call routine in the second data handling application. Since Marshall only discloses concurrent installation of both applications, Marshall does not disclose or suggest installing a first self-contained data handling application to operate with a second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application.

Marshall discloses a number of calls by which the two applications can communicate, but these calls are predefined at build time and so do not use dynamically defined links. By contrast, the present invention requires a) determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present, b) generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application,

which will be executed by the call routine in the second data handling application. Marshall provides no disclosure of these required elements of the present invention.

Thus, the present invention, according to claim 1, and according to claims 5 and 8, which are similar to claim 1, and according to claims 2, 4, 7, and 9, which depend therefrom, is not unpatentable over Marshall.

The applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, according to claims 3 and 6 is not unpatentable over Marshall in view of APA because even if Marshall and APA were combined as suggested by the Examiner, the result would not be the present invention as claimed. As described above, Marshall does not disclose or suggest installing a first self-contained data handling application to operate with a second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application and Marshall does not disclose or suggest determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present, generating a link to a software routine provided by, and utilizing when executed, the first data handling application, which will be executed by the call routine in the second data handling application. Likewise, APA does not disclose or suggest this subject matter. Therefore, the combination of Marshall and APA still does not disclose or suggest these required features of the present invention.

Thus, the present invention, according to claims 3 and 6 is not unpatentable over Marshall in view of APA.

Each of the claims now pending in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

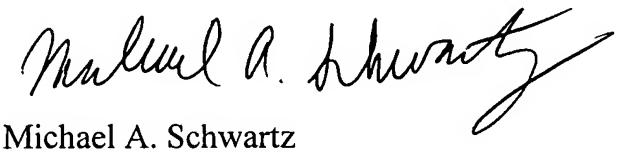
Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (19111.0072).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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